

OPERATION MORNING LIGHT

A Table Top Exercise – Wind Storm and Power Outage

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release:

The City of Union Gap will host, along with its community partners, a Table Top Exercise simulating a significant wind storm that creates a major power outage for the Upper Yakima Valley. The event will examine the cities capabilities to respond to the simulated scenario maintaining services and facilitating care for residents in the city. Information provided in the fictitious scenario will start with severe wind storm that downs numerous power lines and poles. There will be simulated debris damage to residents, businesses, and city infrastructure.

The exercise will begin with a briefing at 1000 hrs on May 9, 2011 at the Ahtanum Youth Park in the Barn. It is anticipated to end before 1400 hrs. The most active time will be between 1020 and 1100 hrs with the majority of simulated response occurring just after the city's Emergency Coordination Center has activated to manage the event.

The Emergency Response Community will be simulating their response to this fictitious event. There will be no activity in the field. More than 20 agencies, departments, and organizations are invited to take part. The response includes:

Union Gap	City Council	American Red Cross
	Code Enforcement	Pacific Power
	Fire Department	American Medical Response
	Police Department	Union Gap Dialysis
	Mayor's Office	Parkside Nursing Home
	Public Works	Yakima Air Terminal
	Parks Department	Union Gap School District
	Tourism Department	Yakima Valley Office of Emergency
Washington State Patrol		Management

It is important that we practice and learn in an exercise setting how to respond to the real event. The exercise will utilize a time inject system to present issues as real as possible. An 8' X 8' map table with a map of the City of Union Gap and model cars and trucks to simulate their actions within the city will be available.

Media may contact Jim Hall at the above numbers for access to the City of Union Gap's Emergency Coordination Center during the exercise.

Working for a disaster resilient community

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